

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended)

A method, comprising:

issuing PNNI Topology State Packet (PTSE) information PTSE information from a node, said PTSE information describing a link within an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) Private Network Node Interface (PNNI) ATM PNNI network, said link being within a logical channel (LCN) ~~an LCN~~ exhaustion state, said PTSE information further comprising:

- a) a per priority level breakdown of bandwidth reserved on said link and whether or not a connection exists on said link;
- b) a per service category breakdown of over-subscription factors, or, information from which a per service category breakdown of over-subscription factors can be determined; determined, and actual available capacity on said link and an advertised available capacity value set equal to zero for each of said service categories; and
- c) a per priority level breakdown of whether or not a connection exists on said link;
- c) an indication ~~d) an indication~~ of the actual maximum capacity of said link and an advertised maximum capacity value set equal to zero; and,

~~e) a per service category breakdown of actual available capacity on said link and an  
advertised available capacity value set equal to zero for each of said service  
categories.~~

2. (Original)

The method of claim 1 wherein said PTSE information is a Horizontal Link PTSE information type.

3. (Currently Amended)

The method of claim 1 wherein said PTSE information further comprises System Capabilities Information Group (SIG) information ~~SIG information~~ containing:

    said per priority level breakdown of bandwidth reserved on said link  
    and

    said per service category breakdown of over-subscription factors, or, said information from which a per service category breakdown of over-subscription factors can be determined.

4. (Currently Amended)

The method of claim 1 wherein one of said service categories is a continuous bit rate (CBR) service. ~~CBR service~~.

5. (Currently Amended)

The method of claim 1 wherein one of said service categories is a variable bit rate (VBR) service. ~~VBR service~~.

6. (Currently Amended)

The method of claim 1 wherein one of said service categories is an available bit rate (ABR) service. ABR service.

7.-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended)

A method to assist in deciding whether or not a Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) Private Network Node Interface (PNNI) ~~ATM PNNI~~ network link is able to sustain a new connection, comprising:

if said link is not within a logical channel (LCN) ~~an LCN~~ exhaustion state and said new connection requests more bandwidth than is advertised as being available upon said link for said new connection's service category, regarding the bandwidth available for said new connection as a sum, said sum comprising addition of:

- 1) said advertised available bandwidth and
- 2) the total bandwidth reserved on said link for connections having lower priority than said new connection enhanced by over-subscription for said service category.

10. (Original)

The method of claim 9 further comprising deciding that said link is not able to sustain said new connection because said bandwidth requested by said new connection exceeds said sum.

11. (Original)

The method of claim 9 further comprising deciding that said link is able to sustain said new connection because said sum exceeds said bandwidth requested by said new connection.

12. (Original)

The method of claim 9 further comprising deciding that said link is not able to sustain a second new connection because said second new connection requests more bandwidth than an advertised maximum bandwidth of said link.

13. (Currently Amended)

The method of claim 9 further comprising:

if said link is within an LCN exhaustion state and a second new connection requests more bandwidth than is indicated via System Capabilities Information Group (SIG) information SIG information as being available upon said link for said second new connection's service category, regarding the bandwidth available for said second new connection as a sum, said sum comprising addition of:

- 1) said bandwidth indicated via SIG information and
- 2) the total bandwidth reserved on said link for connections having lower priority than said second new connection enhanced by over-subscription for said second connection's service category.

14. (Original)

The method of claim 13 further comprising detecting said LCN exhaustion state by recognizing that:

- 1) said advertised available bandwidth has been set equal to zero; and,
- 2) an advertised maximum bandwidth of said link has been set equal to zero.

15. (Original)

The method of claim 13 further comprising deciding that said link is not able to sustain said second new connection because said bandwidth requested by said second new connection exceeds said sum.

16. (Original)

The method of claim 13 further comprising deciding that said link is able to sustain said second new connection because said sum exceeds said bandwidth requested by said second new connection and because there exists a pre-established connection on said link having a lower priority than said second new connection, said pre-established connection being indicated via SIG information describing a per priority level breakdown of whether or not a pre-established connection exists on said link.

17. (Original)

The method of claim 13 further comprising deciding that said link is not able to sustain said second new connection even though said sum exceeds said bandwidth requested by said second new connection because there does not exist a pre-established connection on said link

having a lower priority than said second new connection, said lack of a pre-established connection being indicated via SIG information describing a per priority level breakdown of whether or not a pre-established connection exists on said link.

18. (Currently Amended)

A method, comprising:

a) updating an understanding of an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) Private Network Node Interface (PNNI) ~~ATM-PNNI~~ network after reception of PNNI Topology State Packet (PTSE) information, ~~PTSE information~~, said understanding including an understanding of a link within said network, said PTSE information having System Capabilities Information Group (SIG) information ~~SIG information~~ that comprises:

- 1) a first per priority level breakdown of bandwidth reserved on said link;
- 2) a first per service category breakdown of over-subscription factors; and,

b) deciding whether said link is able to sustain a new connection, said deciding comprising, if said new connection's bandwidth exceeds an available bandwidth for said new connection found within said PTSE information, regarding the bandwidth available for said new connection as a sum, said sum comprising addition of:

- 1) said available bandwidth and
- 2) the total bandwidth reserved on said link for connections having lower priority than said new connection enhanced by over-subscription calculated with a said over-subscription factor for said service category.

19. (Currently Amended)

The method of claim 18 wherein said available bandwidth is:

- 1) advertised according to a technique specified by a PNNI standard if said link is not in a logical channel (LCN) ~~an LCN~~ exhaustion state; or,
- 2) broadcasted within SIG information if said link is within an LCN exhaustion state.

20. (Original)

The method of claim 18 further comprising deciding that said link is not able to sustain said new connection because said bandwidth requested by said new connection exceeds said sum.

21. (Original)

The method of claim 18 further comprising deciding that said link is able to sustain said new connection because said sum exceeds said bandwidth requested by said new connection.

22. (Original)

The method of claim 18 further comprising deciding that said link is able to sustain said new connection because said sum exceeds said bandwidth requested by said new connection and because there exists a pre-established connection on said link having a lower priority than said new connection, said pre-established connection being indicated via SIG information describing a per priority level breakdown of whether or not a pre-established connection exists on said link, said link in an LCN exhaustion state.

23. (Original)

The method of claim 18 further comprising deciding that said link is not able to sustain said new connection even though said sum exceeds said bandwidth requested by said new connection because there does not exist a pre-established connection on said link having a lower priority than said new connection, said lack of a pre-established connection being indicated via SIG information describing a per priority level breakdown of whether or not a pre-established connection exists on said link, said link in an LCN exhaustion state.

24. (Currently Amended)

A machine readable medium having stored thereon a sequence of instructions which when executed by a processor cause said processor to perform a method, said method comprising:

deciding when a link within an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) Private Network Node Interface (PNNI) ATM PNNI network is within a logical channel (LCN) an LCN exhaustion state; and,

preparing PNNI Topology State Packet (PTSE) information PTSE information to be issued from a node, said PTSE information having information describing said link, said information further comprising:

- a) a per priority level breakdown of bandwidth reserved on said link and whether or not a connection exists on said link;
- b) a per service category breakdown of over-subscription factors, or, information from which a per service category breakdown of over-subscription factors can be

determined; determined, and actual available capacity on said link and an advertised available capacity value set equal to zero for each of said service categories; and

~~e) a per priority level breakdown of whether or not a connection exists on said link;~~

~~c) an indication d) an indication of the actual maximum capacity of said link and an advertised maximum capacity value set equal to zero. zero; and,~~

~~e) a per service category breakdown of actual available capacity on said link and an advertised available capacity value set equal to zero for each of said service categories.~~

25. (Original)

The machine readable medium of claim 24 wherein said PTSE information is a Horizontal Link PTSE information type.

26. (Currently Amended)

The machine readable medium of claim 24 wherein said PTSE information further comprises System Capabilities Information Group (SIG) information ~~SIG information~~ containing:

    said per priority level breakdown of bandwidth reserved on said link

    and

    said per service category breakdown of over-subscription factors, or, said information from which a per service category breakdown of over-subscription factors can be determined..

27. (Currently Amended)

The machine readable medium of claim 24 wherein one of said service categories is a continuous bit rate (CBR) service. ~~CBR service.~~

28. (Currently Amended)

The machine readable medium of claim 24 wherein one of said service categories is a variable bit rate (VBR) service. ~~VBR service.~~

29. (Currently Amended)

The machine readable medium of claim 24 wherein one of said service categories is an available bit rate (ABR) service. ~~ABR service.~~

30.-31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended)

A machine readable medium having a sequence of instructions which when executed cause a processor to perform a method to assist in deciding whether or not an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) Private Network Node Interface (PNNI) ~~a ATM PNNI~~ network link is able to sustain a new connection, said method comprising:

if said link is not within a logical channel (LCN) ~~an LCN~~ exhaustion state and said new connection requests more bandwidth than is advertised as being available upon said link for said new connection's service category, regarding the bandwidth available for said new connection as a sum, said sum comprising addition of:

- 1) said advertised available bandwidth and

2) the total bandwidth reserved on said link for connections having lower priority than said new connection enhanced by over-subscription for said service category.

33. (Original)

The machine readable medium of claim 32 wherein said method further comprises deciding that said link is not able to sustain said new connection because said bandwidth requested by said new connection exceeds said sum.

34. (Original)

The machine readable medium of claim 32 wherein said method further comprises deciding that said link is able to sustain said new connection because said sum exceeds said bandwidth requested by said new connection.

35. (Original)

The machine readable medium of claim 32 wherein said method further comprises deciding that said link is not able to sustain a second new connection because said second new connection requests more bandwidth than an advertised maximum bandwidth of said link.

36. (Currently Amended)

The machine readable medium of claim 32 wherein said method further comprises:  
if said link is within ~~an LCN~~ said LCN exhaustion state and a second new connection requests more bandwidth than is indicated via System Capabilities Information Group (SIG) information ~~SIG information~~ as being available upon said link for said second new

connection's service category, regarding the bandwidth available for said second new connection as a sum, said sum comprising addition of:

- 1) said bandwidth indicated via SIG information and
- 2) the total bandwidth reserved on said link for connections having lower priority than said second new connection enhanced by over-subscription for said second connection's service category.

37. (Original)

The machine readable medium of claim 36 wherein said method further comprises detecting said LCN exhaustion state by recognizing that:

- 1) said advertised available bandwidth has been set equal to zero; and,
- 2) an advertised maximum bandwidth of said link has been set equal to zero.

38. (Original)

The machine readable medium of claim 36 wherein said method further comprises deciding that said link is not able to sustain said second new connection because said bandwidth requested by said second new connection exceeds said sum.

39. (Original)

The machine readable medium of claim 36 wherein said method further comprises deciding that said link is able to sustain said second new connection because said sum exceeds said bandwidth requested by said second new connection and because there exists a pre-established connection on said link having a lower priority than said second new connection,

said pre-established connection being indicated via SIG information describing a per priority level breakdown of whether or not a pre-established connection exists on said link.

40. (Original)

The machine readable medium of claim 36 wherein said method further comprises deciding that said link is not able to sustain said second new connection even though said sum exceeds said bandwidth requested by said second new connection because there does not exist a pre-established connection on said link having a lower priority than said second new connection, said lack of a pre-established connection being indicated via SIG information describing a per priority level breakdown of whether or not a pre-established connection exists on said link.

41. (Currently Amended)

A machine readable medium having a sequence of instructions which when executed by a processor cause said processor to perform a method, said method comprising:

a) updating an understanding of an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) Private Network Node Interface (PNNI) ~~ATM PNNI~~ network after reception of PNNI Topology State Packet (PTSE) information, ~~PTSE information~~, said understanding including an understanding of a link within said network, said PTSE information having System Capabilities Information Group (SIG) information ~~SIG information~~ that comprises:

- 1) a first per priority level breakdown of bandwidth reserved on said link;
- 2) a first per service category breakdown of over-subscription factors; and,

b) deciding whether said link is able to sustain a new connection, said deciding comprising, if said new connection's bandwidth exceeds an available bandwidth for said new connection found within said PTSE information, regarding the bandwidth available for said new connection as a sum, said sum comprising addition the of:

- 1) said available bandwidth and
- 2) the total bandwidth reserved on said link for connections having lower priority than said new connection enhanced by over-subscription calculated with a said over-subscription factor for said service category.

42. (Currently Amended)

The machine readable medium of claim 41 wherein said available bandwidth is:

- 1) advertised according to a technique specified by a PNNI standard if said link is not in a logical channel (LCN) ~~an LCN~~ exhaustion state; or,
- 2) broadcasted within SIG information if said link is within an LCN exhaustion state.

43. (Original)

The machine readable medium of claim 41 wherein said method further comprises deciding that said link is not able to sustain said new connection because said bandwidth requested by said new connection exceeds said sum.

44. (Original)

The machine readable medium of claim 41 wherein said method further comprises deciding that said link is able to sustain said new connection because said sum exceeds said bandwidth requested by said new connection.

45. (Original)

The machine readable medium of claim 41 wherein said method further comprises deciding that said link is able to sustain said new connection because said sum exceeds said bandwidth requested by said new connection and because there exists a pre-established connection on said link having a lower priority than said new connection, said pre-established connection being indicated via SIG information describing a per priority level breakdown of whether or not a pre-established connection exists on said link, said link in an LCN exhaustion state.

46. (Original)

The machine readable medium of claim 41 wherein said method further comprises deciding that said link is not able to sustain said new connection even though said sum exceeds said bandwidth requested by said new connection because there does not exist a pre-established connection on said link having a lower priority than said new connection, said lack of a pre-established connection being indicated via SIG information describing a per priority level breakdown of whether or not a pre-established connection exists on said link, said link in an LCN exhaustion state.